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Amendment
Attorney Docket No. H01.2B-11507-US01

Remarks

This Amendment is in response to the Office Action dated April 7, 2006. The Examiner rejected claims 1-16 under §112 and rejected claims 2-4 and claim 15 as obvious over US 6044952 in view of 4413718.

Applicant respectfully traverses the §103 rejections to claims 2-4 and 15.

Applicant also added a new claim 17, which is dependent on claim 15, and which adds a further limitation regarding the transmission of light from the windows with respect to the coin tube.

Applicant amended the preambles in claims 1-16 to address the §112 rejections and also amended claim 3 to properly compare the wall thickness of the coin tube with the wall thickness of the windows.

Applicant also made several amendments to fix obvious typos, as well as changed the title of the application, to conform to the claimed invention.

§103 Rejections

Claim 2 was rejected as obvious over Dean in view of Haggerty, the Examiner asserting it would have been obvious to incorporate the integrally formed prism 60 of Haggerty into the coin detecting apparatus of Dean. The Examiner asserts that while Dean includes a prism incorporated in a coin tube, Haggerty further teaches an apparatus that incorporates a prism 60 that is integrally formed with a housing 7 that bounds a currency passageway 28. Applicant respectfully disagrees with the assertion that the prism in Haggerty is integrated with the housing. Haggerty teaches that the housing 7 "can be made of transparent plastic, such as a red transparent plastic material" and that prism 60 "can be made of a material such as polycarbonate LEXAN". If the prism was intended to be integrally formed with the housing, there would be no

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reason to distinguish these materials. Therefore, Haggerty does not teach a prism integrated with the housing, and the claimed integrated prism arrangement is therefore **not shown** in the cited combination.

A combination of Dean and Haggerty would not lead to the teachings of claim 2, as amended, because such a combination does not address the construction of inlet and outlet portions of the coin tubes to create windows 28, 30 where the transmission of light is markedly higher than in the rest of the tube. This also minimizes reflection effects and unwanted light, which is not shown in Dean or Haggerty.

Therefore, the limitations of claim 2 are not believed to be met by the combination of Dean and Haggerty. Because the limitations of claim 2 are not believed to be met by this combination, the other rejection to dependent claim 3 is also believed to be transversed. Claim 4 has been canceled since it was incorporated into claim 2.

Claim 15 as amended is believed to be allowable for the same reasons that claim 2 is believed to be allowed.

New claim 17 is believed to be allowable because it depends from claim 15, which is believed to be allowable. Furthermore, claim 17 adds the new limitation that the light transmission in the windows is markedly higher than in the rest of the coin tube.

Other Matters

Claims 1, 5-14 and 16 were not rejected under 35 USC §103, and therefore applicant believes that the amendments made to overcome the §112 rejections should place those claims in condition for allowance.

However, in addition to the arguments made as to claim 2 above, dependent claim 6 further distinguishes from the cited combination in that, the prism is surrounded by a raised

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frame 42, to restrict the propagation of unwanted light and the penetration of unwanted extraneous light to the prism. This claimed arrangement is not mentioned in Haggerty, nor does Haggerty teach a need to prevent unwanted light interference.

Conclusion

Claims 1-3 and 5-17 are believed to be in condition for allowance, as currently amended.

Respectfully submitted,

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